



## NEWS SUMMARY

### GENERAL

**Cod war Equities carried slip 5 but to U.S. end ahead base on week**

Icelandic fishermen yesterday closed the main gate of the U.S. air base at Keflavik. Protesters also gathered at the U.S. telecommunication and radar stations in the vicinity.

But last night barriers were removed from the gate after the personal intervention of Mr. Geir Hallgrímsson, Icelandic Prime Minister.

Earlier, as these developments took place ashore, the Icelandic gunboats Tyr and Odinn made further attempts to cut the warps of British trawlers.

The Ministry of Defence said that although Tyr made a high-speed run through a pack of 17 trawlers off the north-east coast of Iceland, it was thwarted by the frigates Scylla and the tugs, Europa and Statesman. Odinn, marked by the frigate Andromeda, was also unsuccessful.

Speaking at Hull last night, Mr. Fred Peart, Fisheries Minister, said he expected the Cod War to drag on until something emerged from the UN Law of the Sea conference.

### Polisario acts in Sahara

After an Algerian warning yesterday that it will not recognise the annexation of Western Sahara by Morocco and Mauritania, the Algerian-backed Polisario Front independence guerrilla movement last night proclaimed a democratic republic in the territory. In Damascus King Hussein of Jordan held talks with President Assad of Syria. Other Middle East news, Page 11

### Dublin announces IRA crackdown

As the Dublin Parliament prepared for next week's final stage of the Irish Government's new anti-terrorist Bill, which will enable courts on either side of the border to try fugitive offenders, Mr. Patrick Cooney, Justice Minister, announced last night that jail sentences for belonging to the IRA in the Republic are to be "much increased".

### Court claim of Herrema deal

A secret surrender deal with the Irish police over possible jail terms ended the Herrema siege, Eddie Gallagher—the main said to have led the kidnap gang—claimed in Dublin's Special Criminal Court yesterday.

### Bewbush move

A full report on inquiries into the Mr. Bewbush, Crawley, land deal is to go to the Director of Public Prosecutions on Monday. Sussex police stated yesterday. It is understood that prosecutions for conspiracy and corruption are recommended.

### Beatles again

Beatles singles will be on sale again from March 5 when EMI, influenced by the present nostalgia wave, re-releases the 22 singles it still catalogues—ranging from the first Love Me Do, in the last, Let It Be. The Beatles have not recorded as a group for more than five years.

### Traditional Anne

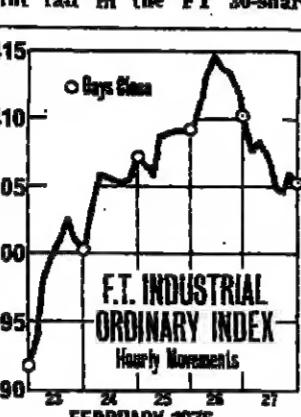
After driving through London in an open carriage escorted by the Household Cavalry to receive the Freedom of the City, Princess Anne said in her Guildhall speech: "I am thoroughly convinced of the value of tradition in our modern lives."

### Briefly . . .

Paris branch of Marks & Spencer's was badly damaged by a bomb blast early yesterday. There were no casualties. President Neto, MPLA leader of Angola, is to meet President Mobutu of Zaire for possible peace treaty talks. Page 11. The U.S. Consulate General at Liverpool is to close on May 28 or reasons of economy.

### CHIEF PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY

(Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated)	
<b>RISES</b>	
British Leyland	52 + 5
Brown & Tawse	75 + 5
Emmideley	16 + 44
Coated Metals	141 + 11
Martin (R. P.)	73 + 4
Sammons Sims	142 + 17
Staffs. Potts	132 + 12
Std. Scientific	112 + 11
<b>FALLS</b>	
Ackroyd & Sonners	225 - 8
Allied Retailers	120 - 12
Anglo Am. Ind.	470 - 50
Barelays Bank	508 - 7
Beazer (C. H.)	116 - 12
Boots	124 - 4
Coats & Chemical	50 - 34
Conradts	155 - 5
Dew (G)	121 - 5
FTZ	316 - 1



## Border arrests lead Rhodesia to cut Mozambique link

BY BRIDGET BLOOM IN LONDON AND TONY HAWKINS IN SALISBURY

As Lord Greenhill, Britain's special envoy to Rhodesia, left Salisbury last night at the end of his two-day mission, the Rhodesian government announced that all rail traffic with the Mozambique port of Maputo (formerly Lourenco Marques) had been halted.

Rhodesia's Minister of Transport, Mr. Roger Hawkins, announced the closure of the railway, the country's main export and import route, following the arrest by Mozambique authorities yesterday morning of 18 Rhodesia Railway workers.

According to the Rhodesians, no reasons have been given for the arrests of the 18 men, who include all 14 Rhodesian officials at the border station of Mavemba and two train crew. It was, however, being suggested that the men, eight blacks and eight whites, were arrested by the local Frelimo commander in the Mavemba area.

The Rhodesian Government appears to be playing down the gravity of the closure. A statement from the Ministry of Transport in the Rhodesian capital suggested that the arrests might be the result of a misunderstanding. The Rhodesian Railway Authorities were already in contact with their counterparts in Mozambique, it said, and were endeavouring to secure the release of the men.

It is not clear whether the incident, which was announced after Lord Greenhill's departure, is in any way connected with the admitted invasion by Rhodesian forces of Mozambique territory last Tuesday, when 24 African guerrillas were killed.

There has been considerable diversion of Rhodesian trade since the railway was closed by Mozambique as part of the Portuguese coup nearly of its contribution to sanctions. There is, in fact, a parallel for two years ago and this has

## McDonnell Douglas likely to fight DC-10 award

BY JAY PALMER IN SAN FRANCISCO AND ERIC SHORT IN LONDON

McDONNELL DOUGLAS yesterday strongly hinted that it will appeal against the \$1.5m. (\$750,000) damages awarded by a Los Angeles Federal Court jury to the estate of a London couple killed in the crash of a Turkish Airlines DC-10 jet airliner near Paris nearly two years ago.

The judgment, the first jury award to come out of the DC-10 crash litigation, is generally thought to be the largest settlement ever seen in California for a double death.

It is expected to set a precedent for the continuing settlement discussions and numerous Los Angeles jury hearings planned for other claims involving 1,100 additional plaintiffs.

The crash of the Turkish Airlines DC-10 wide-bodied jet occurred on March 3, 1974, killing 346 passengers and crew in aviation's worst disaster.

**Hull insurance**

Investigators attributed the crash to the "blow-out" of a rear cargo door which caused the rapid depressurisation, the collapse of the passenger floor

Continued on Back Page

cabin and the destruction of vital control cables.

If the pattern of subsequent settlements is similar, the London aviation insurance market faces a record claims bill, estimated at between £25m. and £30m. for passenger liability. In addition, there is a £10m. claim for the aircraft itself under the hull insurance.

The insurance aspect of the claims is out of line with normal aircraft accidents in that it is being pursued on a product liability basis. Passenger liability and product liability covers are combined in this case.

The aircraft manufacturers, McDonnell Douglas, were the main defendants, with suppliers, General Dynamics, and the airline, Turkish Airlines, also defendants. The payment of the hull insurance claim is not expected to cause any problems.

Mr. John Hewitt, chairman of Lloyd's Aviation Underwriters' Association, said that the insurance market had been aware of the potential size of the claims ever since the U.S. lawsuits were initiated.

Continued on Back Page

As most insurers have already taken account of this in their books there should be no immediate concern over insurance ratings.

Lawyers for McDonnell Douglas in California and New York refused to discuss their client's financial legal tactics.

However, in an interview with the Los Angeles Times, Mr. James FitzSimons, the aerospace company's leading lawyer, explained that any challenge would probably be based on a application of California law to this case. An appeal is likely to proceed.

The damages were awarded in undisputed proportions against McDonnell Douglas, the builder and designer of the DC-10, and General Dynamics, subcontractor for the aircraft's fuselage.

The court was told that, by pre-arrangement, Turkish Airlines had paid \$60,000 towards the judgment.

Although McDonnell Douglas refused to discuss its ultimate financial liability, in its most recent annual report the company added:

"The court's award of \$1.5 million to the estate of the deceased couple is being appealed by the plaintiff."

The Post Office estimates that withdrawal of Sunday collections will save about £5m. in the coming year, and that stopping late collections will produce a saving of about £1m. The

closure of post offices on Saturday afternoons is expected to produce a saving in operating costs of about £500,000.

The Post Office has calculated that, since the beginning of this financial year it has saved at the rate of about £35m. a year, through greater concentration of work where it was needed. Essentially this has meant less overtime payments.

Eight service unit proposals were put forward last July, of which four were then accepted, and four rejected. The proposals accepted were to end Bank Holiday collections, to suspend services on December 27 last (a one-off question), to end Saturday parcel dispatch, and to revise the service on second class mail

(with effect from January 31 to give a 72-hour leeway, instead of 48-hour).

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# The week in London and Equities still cling to 400

Equities came under pressure yesterday following a sharp overnight fall on Wall Street where against a background of heavy dealing volume the Dow Jones had been looking very strong for five consecutive trading sessions. Down 5.4 per cent at 2 p.m., the 30-Share Index closed five points lower; nonetheless, over the five days it has managed to recover practically all of last week's decline with a net gain of 13.3 points to 405.2. Since the beginning of the year the market has now either passed through or touched 400 no less than 16 times.

Though easier yesterday despite another cut in MLR, yields have had one of their best weeks for some time. But the news from the U.S. is not help-

**TOP PERFORMING SECTORS IN FOUR WEEKS FROM JAN 29**

	% Rise
Toys & Games	+12.1
Motors & Distributors	+7.8
Electronics, Radio & TV	+7.0
Machine & Other Tools	+6.8
Hire Purchase	+6.3
Newspapers, Publishing	+5.3
All-Share Index	-0.5

**THE WORST PERFORMERS**

	% Fall
Merchant Banks	-3.3
Contracting & Construc.	-4.4
Investment Trusts	-5.3
Insurance (Composite)	-5.9
Shipping Banks	-8.0
	-8.1

ing with Citibank lifting its prime rate yesterday. In equities, banks have gleaned no comfort from the results from NatWest and the Midland. But up to Thursday rises among FT quoted industrials were running well over two-to-one against falls while the consumer goods and consumer durables actuaries sectors have been hitting new peaks.

## Banks go on a rights spree

Rights issues this week from Standard Chartered, the Union Bank of Switzerland and Skandinaviska Enskilda in Sweden are only the latest in the recent series of capital strengthening moves from banks throughout the world. This list has also included issues this month from Lloyds Bank, J. P. Morgan and Dresdner Bank following a series last year in, for example, Germany, Australia as well as in the U.K. from the Midland. While the particular circumstances differ, there is the common theme of the pressures on the capital ratios of financial

institutions in a period of rapid years, though with three-quarters of its assets overseas particularly the Scottish trusts, the group has faced the likelihood of declining ratios when of being bullish over the sterling depreciates as a sterling U.S. and are substantially committed to support foreign currency assets. But for Stan accounting for between a third and a half of total assets, has been a useful cushion.

The moves are essentially anticipatory: although loan demand is still sluggish in most countries it could clearly rise sharply when world economic recovery occurs. So the banks want to strengthen their capital bases ahead of an upturn not time to increase local capital deposits through organic growth but also to allow for acquisitions.

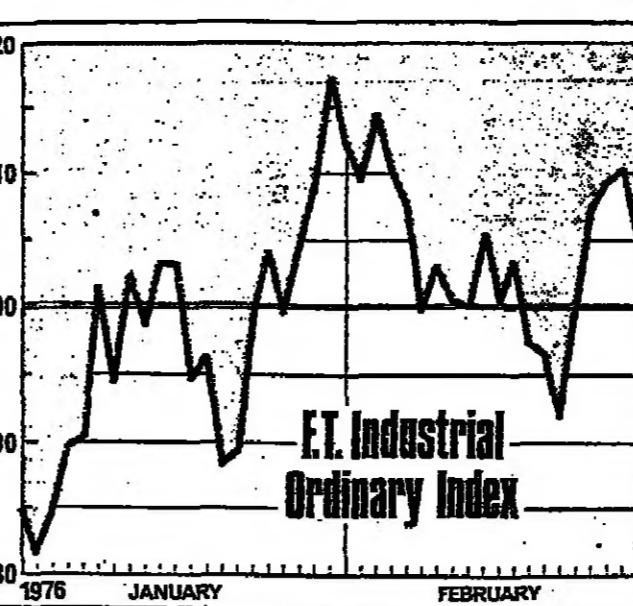
In the U.K., there was considerable speculation earlier this year on which clearing banks would produce rights issues—so far only Lloyds has joined the Midland—and there was some surprise when Standard Chartered popped up with a call over the past month. But the £23m, on Wednesday. Its weakness of the premium does not reflect any lack of interest in the U.K. clearers with a weakening of its capital ratios over the

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Obviously there are plenty of hopes that the Dow Jones will quickly rise through its all-time peak (1,051) but many fund managers still expect the market performance to be ragged.

The most favoured sectors seem to be financials, including insurances and some regional banks, along with basic industries.

The reduction in the premium has been a symptom for some months of institutions concentrating on investment via dollar loans rather than premium dollars. But the increase in loans has been fairly modest—probably no more than \$40m. It has been raised by U.K. trusts over the past six months—which contrasts strikingly with the headlong rush in 1972-73 when £250m. of loans were raised



## Investment trusts and the Dow

Up until Thursday the Dow Jones index was seriously producing rights issues—so far only Lloyds has joined the Midland—and there was some surprise when Standard Chartered popped up with a call over the past month. But the £23m, on Wednesday. Its weakness of the premium does not reflect any lack of interest in the U.K. clearers with a weakening of its capital ratios over the

years. So premium roughly two-thirds larger than holdings are still far larger than loans. Last December the Ferries acquired three years multi-currency loans of all in ago and subsequently expanded vestment trusts totalling £260m. successfully. Meantime, port with back-to-back loans adding nationalisation still sit in the wings.

**North Sea news**

Although, along with rising costs and the problems of raising development finance, the uncertainty over State participation is just one of a host of hazards facing North Sea

Developers, the terms of the Government's first participation agreement, concluded this week with Gulf Oil and Conoco, are not as stringent as was once feared.

The participation agreement amounts to an option which would allow the State-owned British National Oil Corporation to buy 51 per cent of oil produced at market prices. But this is not an effective 51 per cent participation in the stakes of Gulf and Conoco because BNOC already holds a one-third stake in the relevant fields. Thus it needs to acquire only a further 17½ per cent of Gulf and Conoco to achieve majority participation, which is equivalent to only 33⅓ per cent of each company's one-third interest in the licences.

Furthermore, taking into account the Government's royalty rights, the proportion slips to 23.2 per cent.

One possibility raised by this agreement is that of deals between members of North Sea consortia. Oil companies place the bid. But the Bill now looks like taking some time to get through Parliament, while the alternative from Ferries could be better here and now. The Ferries' bid provides Felixstowe with roughly a tenth of the combined equity in return for a similar contribution to overall profits.

For Ferries the dock looks a good buy. It is now over the bulk of a big capital spending programme aimed at expansion, and it consolidates Ferries commercial muscle in the Harwich area. The port is

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**Elusive 1000**

WALL STREET flirted all week that Wall Street will regather with the one thousand mark on its forces sometime soon for an

Average. But having tried and said nothing.

The share of the week was clearly Chrysler. The company

breakthrough, reaction set in said that it would be operating profitably throughout 1976, which market suffered its biggest fall for it to gain, up until Thursday night, nearly 20 per cent.

The performance was entirely based on internal market factors.

The economic news remained uniformly favourable, with further evidence of an abatement in the rise of inflation as measured by the consumer price index and, on

Friday morning, the announcement that the leading economic indicators had jumped by an ex-

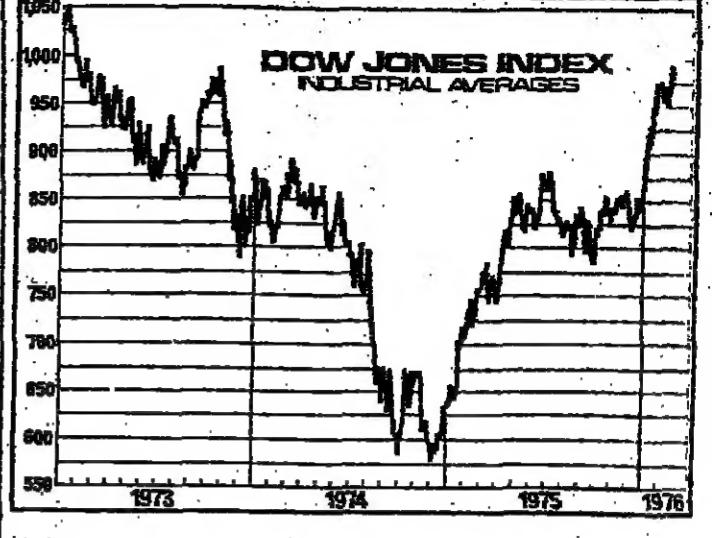
pected amount.

Volume remained extremely heavy throughout the week and only once (Friday) fell below the 30m. share a day level. This, again, is seen as a fundamentally bullish sign.

Volume has clearly been aided by a fair amount of portfolio switching by the major institutions. Focus has been increasingly on companies which

## MARKET HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

	Price Y/day	Change on Week	1975/6 High	1975/6 Low	
F.T. Ind. Ord. Index	405.2	+13.3	417.4	346.0	Renewed demand
F.T. Gold Mines Index	183.9	-12.6	442.3	183.9	Nervousness about Africa
Treasury 13½% 1997 "A"	£99½	+1½	£101½	£88½	Interest rate hopes
Ayer Hitam	195	+10	198	77	Rise in tin price
BOC International	63½	+5	65	16½	Good first-quarter profits
Clark (Matthew)	68	+11	72	30	Doubled interim profits
De Beers Ltd.	228	-42	335	161	African situation
Dunlop	85	+8	86	17	Investment demand
EMI	254	+13	258	62	Ahead of Thursday's int. report
East Sussex Engng.	31½	+9	31½	4½	Aurora cash bid of 30p
Horizon Midlands	45	+8	46½	10	Good preliminary statement
Johnson Matthey	363	+28	383	120	Better-than-expected 3rd. qtr.
National Westminster	270	+20	290	88	Satisfactory results
Nottingham Mfg.	78	+12	80	29	Good results
OK Bazaars	490	-130	930	440	African political uncertainties
Ransomes, Sims	142	+26	165	45	Impressive results plus statement
Reynolds Parsons	129	+11	131	21	Renewed investment demand
Rovill	12	-9	28	9½	Int. div. omission/Profits setback
Royal Dutch	51½	-3½	53½	£14	Lower investment dollar premium
Spirella	92½	+11	97	18½	Good preliminary figures



tremendously healthy 2.2 per cent in have reported improvements in earnings, but which represent good value: analysts repeatedly comment on the fact that there are stocks available selling at below ten times earnings.

One sector which has not fully shared in the overall advance of the last two months is retailing. Economic statistics now suggest that the revival in consumer spending is less fragile than was at first thought: economists were unsure, for example, whether the undeniably Christmas spending spree was a false dawn or not. The doubts having been dispersed a number of brokerage houses are now recommending their clients to invest in some of the better known retailing forms, like Macy's Federated Department Stores, Sears Roebuck and Marcor (The Montgomery Ward parent company).

It is now 37 months since the Dow last reached 1,000. The prevailing bullishness on Wall Street had led many to assume that it climed to a new high range of 1,050 to 1,100 in the course of this year was inevitable, though meantime, the share price of the dock has eased 9p to 151p this week.

Initially, the Felixstowe Board supported the BTB offer and agreed to "assist" in the promotion of a Bill enabling Parliament to sanction the bid. But the Bill now looks like taking some time to get through Parliament, while the alternative from Ferries could be better here and now. The Ferries' bid provides Felixstowe with roughly a tenth of the combined equity in return for a similar contribution to overall profits.

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Onlooker

	Closing	Change
Monday	985.28	-2.52
Tuesday	993.35	+8.87
Wednesday	994.57	+1.02
Thursday	978.83	-15.74
Friday	972.61	-6.22

Thus many analysts saw the retreat in the latter half of the week as a logical technical reaction, if only because the great advances of the current bull market have been telescoped into a relatively short period of time. Clearly the reaction reflected a degree of profit taking and the fact that the market is "overbought," but the prevailing view seems to be still

TV Radio

† indicates programme in black and white.

## BBC 1

9.00 a.m. Bagpuss. 9.15 Devilin. 9.35 Whirligig. 10.00 Play School. 10.30 The Loveable Zoo. 10.45 Weather Forecast. 10.55 News.

11.00 Saturday Club. 11.30 Grandstand. 12.00 The World at War.

1.00 Sunday Club. 1.30 Weather Forecast. 1.45 2.15

2.45 from Teesside. 2.10 International Sports Special (part 2).

2.45 from Stratford. 2.20 2.30

2.45 from Teesside. 2.45 2.55

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2.55 from Teesside.

# Your savings and investments

## Investments for charities

BY ERIC SHORT

PROFESSIONAL management which was established so that a portfolio is usually desirable, whatever the type of their portfolio into the scheme fund. One way of acquiring and meeting the requirements of this expertise is to use the both the narrow and wider various trusts and other group ranging investments. The fund that are available. Individual investment is now very much orientated of Charinco as a common fund by a variety of means—unit which comprises 80 per cent. of trusts, investment trusts, life the total value of £100m.

**Charifund**

The only other fund specifically designed for the investment of charity funds is Charifund from M and G. This was launched in 1960 and is only available for bona-fide charities. It is designed to meet the equity requirements of portfolios and is classified as a wider-range investment. It aims to provide an above-average income yield.

The investment powers of the trustees to the charity should be listed in the deed which establishes the trust to administer the funds of the charity. The absence of any specific instructions on these points means that the powers of the trustees in respect of investments are governed by the 1961 Trustee Investment Act and section 22 of the 1960 Charities Act.

The 1961 Trustee Act enabled charities among other investors to hold equities in their portfolios, a holding that was previously banned unless the trust deed empowered them specifically to do so. Under this Act trustees had to split the portfolio on a 50-50 basis. The first part had to be invested in what was called "Narrower-Range" investments which covered cash in the form of National Savings Bank and Trustee Savings Bank deposits, and most other forms of fixed-interest investment. The second part was invested in what was described as "Wider-Range" investments which are ordinary shares, fulfilling certain minimum conditions. Building society shares and units in an authorised unit trust.

The Charities Act authorised the establishment of what was termed common investment schemes and all charities are empowered to participate in these schemes unless the trust deed specifically excludes them from doing so. The best known of these common schemes is the Charities Official Investment Fund future.

But the events of the past two years have underlined that Trust. But like most property funds there is a high minimum investment level.

**Lloyds Bank**

Lloyds Bank is taking advantage of investors' preference of the last couple of years for high yielding trusts (they are still the best sellers) by launching a new fund aimed at providing an above average return. It is called Lloyds Bank Fourth and joins the three existing trusts managed by the bank. The estimated yield is 25 per cent gross and the fund will be invested mainly in U.K. equities, funds and comply with the Trustee Act. Property investment was not listed in the Act so trustees who can invest in this medium have to look to management is £60m. But none of the existing funds has aimed specifically for high income.

This latest launch means that trustees can cover the fixed-interest and equity portions of their portfolios by specialised funds and comply with the Trustee Act.

Property investment was not listed in the Act so trustees who can invest in this medium have to look to management is £60m. But none of the existing funds has aimed

specifically for high income.

Therefore, I was interested to amount paid is linked to the price of War Loan 3% per cent.

If the price is unchanged between purchase and termination, the return will be 95 per cent. of the investment if it is terminated on death, otherwise the value is 90 per cent. If the price has risen the pay-out is higher and vice-versa.

These warrants should appeal to investors looking for a reasonable level of income, but also wish to keep their capital intact—something that cannot be provided with a straight annuity.

The return on these warrants is akin to an annuity in that it increases with the age of the investor and is slightly higher for men compared with women of the same age.

A point on encashment which investors should bear in mind is that if they cash in when the price of War Loan is high to take a capital profit they are still faced with the reinvestment problem. The factors which lead to War Loan rising will also have resulted in much inflation. Under this scheme the lower yields being obtainable.

THE MAIN feature of Guaranteed Income Bonds was that not only did they provide investors with a high level of income, but the original outlay was returned at the end of the investment term. This made them an attractive proposition, but eventually investors have to decide what to do with the money when the bond matures. Those two year bonds, which were heavily sold in the first three months of 1974 are now maturing, so for many investors that problem has now arisen.

A survey of some of the companies originally involved in these sales shows that the majority of bondholders are staying with the company. Not only that, but they are reinvesting their money in the company's current guaranteed income plans. Almost invariably these plans are very short term—3 to 4 years and the principal features of such schemes have been described.

Target has learnt the lesson given by GLBs in that cash-in will thus have to repeat the market values must be related to market which lead to War Loan rising

will also have resulted in much inflation. Under this scheme the lower yields being obtainable.

# Household textiles recover

BY TOM KYTE

THE MARKET was presented borrowings are now some £24m. while Carrington's 1975 profits Berisfords, like Highams was with two sharply contrasting lower than historic levels and were down from £8m. pre-tax still feeling the effects of the world textile recession during its last trading period—profits for the year to November, 1975, were down from £672,000 pre-tax to £544,000—but it reported an increase in demand since the year-end both at home and overseas and was viewing the current year with confidence.

Highams, Fogarty and Berisfords (which makes domestic and industrial ribbons trimming and labels) are more dependent on household textiles and although none of these actually gives a profit or sales mentioned Spirella certainly split between divisions this seems the most confident but

Spirella has not been entirely immune, however, from the problems which have beset Brentford Nylons; then there was the encouraging preliminary statement from Spirella. The obvious question arising out of this is which company's fortunes are the most representative of the household textiles sector generally?

In many ways, of course, the privately owned Brentford was a special case with its massive advertising outlay—estimated at around £3m. per year—and its policy of chasing high volume growth and undercutting most of its competitors' selling prices.

This policy required a very large capital investment programme which left the group extremely vulnerable to the recent slump in world-wide textile demand, and its accounts bear the scars of this.

At the start of the year about 60% of Brentford's balance sheet was in household textiles the main activity and was more than treble those of heavy debts. Indeed this is reached some months ago and that the textile cycle is once again moving upwards. For the household textile manufacturers the recovery is unlikely to be dramatic but then Brentford has already shown the folly of trying to move ahead too fast in this sector, and following its recent collapse the Stock Market is likely to be more appreciative of the companies

which have survived these difficult times.

To start with, none of the public companies has Brentford's liquidity problems. The interim profits in December slipped from £391,000 to £303,000 pre-tax and the group said that there were no signs yet of any improvement in trading.

Fogarty on the other hand was showing a recovery in its latest figures: profits for the six months to June 30, 1975, achieved without incurring

losses and were more than treble those of heavy debts. Indeed this is reflected by the fact that all of

Highams said that its household textiles side was in a recession and that stocks had been written down considerably.

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# Finance and the family

## Landlord's right of access

BY OUR LEGAL STAFF

In the near future, I shall be in a position to buy the freehold of my home under the Leasehold Reform Act, and have received a letter from my landlord asking for an appointment for his surveyor to inspect the premises. I distrust my landlord. Must I comply?

If, as is most likely, your lease contains covenants which impose on the lessee obligations to repair you would normally be required to allow the landlords access to view the state of repair and (if appropriate) to prepare a schedule of dilapidations. Your better course is to make an appointment for the landlords to view and to ensure that you have some other person present with you when they call. If you have a surveyor or solicitor it would be useful, though it is not essential, if one of them could be present.

### Requirement to give evidence

Some 18 months ago I was principal witness of a car accident and understood that proceedings were to be taken against one of the drivers involved. After this length of time is there any way in which I can avoid a court appearance to give evidence, one of my reasons being that I am stone deaf?

If you are required to give evidence and are served with a

subpoena or witness summons you have no option but to attend. Since some time has elapsed since the incident you may care to write to the appropriate police division and enquire whether they intend to prosecute and if so whether you will be needed to give evidence, at the same time pointing out your infirmity.

### Winding up and employees

I had a contract of employment with a company which went into receivership. The receiver informed employees that all contracts were cancelled and that all monthly paid employees would be paid weekly "so that if the company closed down at least they would get one week's pay." In the event we were told on a certain day that we were all being dismissed and would be paid up to that night, though most employees were taken on by another firm two days later.

When asked about our pay we were told we were unsecured creditors, for whom there was nothing and I understand the company has now been put into liquidation. Do we have a claim worth pursuing?

While the effect of the winding-up of the company is to ter-

minate contracts of employment from the commencement of the winding-up (that is, the tax and no taxable gifts date of presentation of the meantime, the tax would be 10 per cent on the first £5,000 above £15,000, 15 per cent on the next £5,000, and 20 per cent on the next £5,000. The £15,000 life interest to your wife and her share of the residue would not come into the calculations at the time of your death.

courts to refuse to serve a customer for a wrong reason which was in itself defamatory. The customer would then be entitled to damages in reparation for injury to feelings and patrimonial loss if the defamatory allegation received general credence and in some way impaired the customer's business reputation. If, however, a customer was refused for no stated reason while that might not be grounds for an action for defamation he or she might have good reason to make complaint to the licensing authority and raise the matter at the Licensing Court when the publican's certificate came up for renewal.

Of course, the danger of refusing to serve a customer now is compounded by recent legislation dealing with racial and sex discrimination.

If you had two independent planning consents such as you indicate, the later would supersede the earlier. However the detailed "consent" is normally only the fulfilling of conditions (as to detail) imposed by the outline consent and it is the governing permission. The condition as to occupation would therefore still stand in the normal case. Detailed consent is also normally expressed as having to be read in conjunction with the outline consent.

Your personal representatives would be liable to pay capital

### Capital transfer tax

In the event of my leaving an estate of £43,000, willed to my three children £7,000 each, and the residue to my wife and children equally, who would be liable for duty, and how much?

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transfer tax on your death.

No legal responsibility can be accepted by the Financial Times for the answers given in these columns. All inquiries will be answered by post as soon as possible.

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## A discretionary trust

I am trustee of a settlement made in 1973 by a mother on her three children, in the form of a discretionary trust. The trust allows the income to pass direct to the children when each reaches 18 (none has yet done so) and for the capital to pass at age 25. At present, the income has been paid to the mother and thus taxed at 50 per cent, but it has been suggested to me that if the income was instead accumulated and as each child reached 18, the appropriate proportion of the accumulated income was disbursed, it might be possible to exhaust the tax already paid

and in the tax pool and for each child to recover the tax paid, on the assumption that the child's income did not reach the maximum tax-free level. In the light of Section 16-18 Finance Act 1973 and Section 137 of the Taxes Act 1970, what, please, do you think of this?

Provided that the trustees have power to make discretionary payments (out of marginal benefit for someone accumulated income) to whose investment income beneficiaries of full age but (including that from the trust) under 25, the conditions of sub-

section 1 of section 17 will liability to the highest additional apparently be fulfilled and the rate. At present, that limit is proposed procedure will prob-

ably achieve its purpose, in personal reliefs.

### Careers

BY academic criteria, "more" has continued to mean "better" among the undergraduates of the English and Welsh institutions which make up the largest part of this country's university sector. The table—based on newly released official statistics for 1973—explains how.

The percentage columns refer to the different classes of degree gained by that year's bachelor-level graduates. Among the 36 institutions in England and Wales, the proportion gaining first- or upper second-class honours rose to 34.7 per cent, for deciding what is worth a

MICHAEL DIXON

### Honours degrees

	Number of graduates	First class %	Upper second %	Second undivided %	Lower second %	Other honours %	Pass or Ordinary degree %
Average, England & Wales 1973	42,898	7.4	27.3	4.2	36.1	12.5	12.5
Average, England & Wales 1972	42,620	7.1	27.0	4.4	35.3	12.5	12.7
Individual universities 1973:							
Aston in Birmingham	837	6.1	21.6	—	35.9	17.8	18.6
Bath	475	6.4	27.4	—	35.4	16.9	17.9
Birmingham	1,202	7.2	29.9	—	35.8	5.6	17.5
Bradford	749	4.5	27.8	—	37.0	12.4	17.1
Bristol	1,623	5.3	22.9	—	34.2	7.9	19.7
Brunel	361	6.8	21.8	—	31.3	19.1	17.8
Cambridge	2,673	10.9	37.6	7.9	27.5	4.9	13.7
City	451	6.6	20.6	—	44.6	15.1	11.1
Durham	873	12	29.0	—	35.4	12.8	17.6
East Anglia	736	5.4	33.0	—	48.2	9.3	4.1
Exeter	404	3.9	27.5	—	41.7	18.2	8.7
Essex	879	5.1	31.3	—	45.7	12.1	5.8
Hull	974	2.9	24.5	—	47.9	11.1	7.6
Keele	322	2.7	39.5	—	47.4	6.6	1.2
Kent	625	2.9	23.3	—	46.8	17.8	2.2
Lancaster	712	4.2	33.0	—	44.7	11.6	20.5
Leeds	1,462	11.4	27.8	—	40.0	15.7	5.1
Leicester	842	4.4	33.5	—	44.4	12.8	2.9
Liverpool	1,588	5.8	27.4	—	35.7	8.4	22.7
London	4,577	9.0	24.1	—	28.9	14.1	23.9
Loughborough	507	4.5	22.2	—	40.5	16.5	14.3
Manchester	3,864	6.3	37.1	—	32.1	8.4	20.5
University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology	725	9.4	32.1	—	31.9	15.7	20.9
Newcastle	1,388	5.0	20.1	6.8	42.4	9.2	22.5
Nottingham	1,210	7.0	34.4	—	42.4	8.4	6.8
Oxford	2,201	10.9	—	70.6	—	14.9	3.6
Reading	1,052	3.8	29.7	—	46.7	13.9	5.9
Salford	724	7.5	21.5	—	32.3	16.4	20.3
Sheffield	1,305	5.8	29.7	—	42.2	10.8	12.3
Southampton	1,056	6.6	31.9	—	44.9	15.4	2.1
Surrey	534	8.0	31.1	—	35.2	14.8	10.9
Sussex	759	7.9	36.6	—	30.1	13.4	4.0
Warwick	519	28.3	—	46.9	15.0	5.0	5.0
York	406	5.9	36.1	—	46.0	9.3	2.7
Wales	3,190	4.9	29.4	6.8	45.4	15.5	4.9
University of Wales Institute of Science & Technology	464	6.8	18.1	—	42.7	27.4	5.8
Average, Scotland 1973	7,008	4.9	13.7	7.1	16.0	5.0	5.3
Average, Scotland 1972	7,034	5.2	13.7	8.0	16.2	4.2	5.2
Individual universities 1973:							
Aberdeen	1,135	2.4	14.5	6.4	32.8	4.9	5.6
Dundee	501	3.0	12.2	—	26.9	4.0	5.2
Edinburgh	1,859	5.8	11.9	15.4	10.1	3.1	5.7
Glasgow	1,572	4.4	10.9	6.6	11.4	3.3	6.3
Heriot-Watt	491	6.1	12.4	13.5	12.2	10.2	4.5
St. Andrews	533	9.2	15.9	18.2	19.7	7.7	29.3
Stirling	301	2.7	15.6	—	16.6	1.7	6.4
Strathclyde	1,416	4.7	18.2	—	19.4	7.6	5.0
Average, Northern Ireland 1973	1,771	4.1	21.3	6.5	31.2	4.3	38.6
Average, Northern Ireland 1972	1,728	4.6	22.6	—	30.8	4.4	37.6
Individual universities 1973:							
Queen's Belfast	1,242	4.4	18.3	6.6	24.6	2.7	47.4
Ulster	429	3.0	20.5	—	52.0	9.6	4.9
Average, men 1973	35,471	7.9	24.6	5.2	30.9	12.5	19.5
Average, men 1972	35,829	7.7	24.0	5.4	30.3	12.2	20.4
Average, women 1973	17,004	5.1	27.3	2.9	37.3		





Bingling  
Boatbu...  
so mar...  
you all...

The Financial Times Saturday February 28 1976

# How to spend it

## Haute Couture and Home Couture

by Lucia van der Post

Agnes Kinnersley on little-known services for the home dressmaker

**THE AVERAGE** Englishwoman is said to be 5' 2" and pear-shaped. For those like inverted pearls stalk at the feet, buying a coat can be a nightmare. Size 18, 40" bust (102 cms). The politest salesgirl lets her dead pan face slip. "Well, perhaps it is a bit too long." It trails on the floor. I look like one of the Seven Dwarfs. We could shorten it" or "Let's try a 16."

We both know it won't meet down the middle and the too wide cut will drown over my kneecaps.

Next width will be uncomfortable to wear leading to constant fidgeting like a tortoise trying to edge out of its shell.

"Well, we could lift the shoulders." Now she is getting desperate. As any Savile Row tailor will tell you, and this is why men can afford to still go there, a coat that isn't right at the neck and shoulders will never fit. This is where the "balance" lies. Besides, what happens to the inverted pear's ample bosom when her coat's shoulders are lifted a couple of inches never gets ears.

In our climate a woolen top coat is worn more than any other garment. Care and thought about the life you and it are to lead is as important as the amount of money to be spent. For the older woman who ought to be 10 inches taller to balance the proportion of her other measurements, haute couture is the solution.

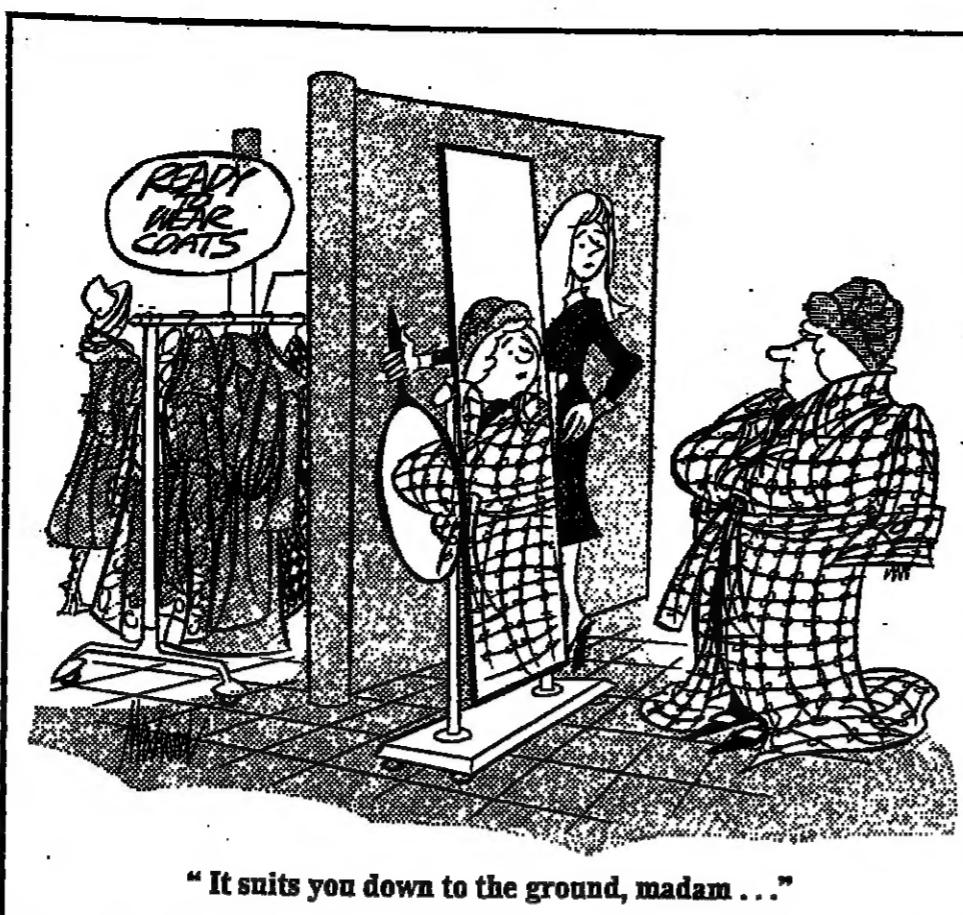
As I don't smoke or drive a car my money is on Roger Brindis, one of the fast disappearing couturiers. He, alas, cannot make me look like Twiggy. But in one of his coats

I don't look a downtrodden mother of 10 plodding down the High Street on a Saturday afternoon wondering what to get Bert for his tea. I am not only an inverted pear. I can't wear high heels so look even nearer the ground.

Apart from the talent and expertise, couturiers of the calibre of Roger Brindis possess an indefinable "x" quality. They don't just make clothes that fit. There is a lot more to it than that.

The materials are of high quality and suitable for their purpose. He would rather lose a sale—and has done so—than make a coat in a different weight or texture from his original model. And it is not only what you see from the outside that counts. Interlinings from Louise, a pure silk double organza, hold the shape without restricting the wearer. The lining proper is 8m but light in weight. Dresses are lined with pure rayon silk; again firm but light in weight.

The method of making eats into material. Seams are wide to allow for adjustment in fitting. Checks match with mathematical precision. There is no cheating in places unlikely to be noticed.



Prints are cut meticulously so his fitter, Miss Clayton, at all

that when working with florals

a rose in full bloom never

appears on your plumpest spot

picture of the client's figure and

if you have blue eyes the

cutter and fitter arrange for a

blue flower to come near your

face. No blowzy puppy ever

lands dead centre on a stomach.

This is part of the art of

the essential balance and proportion in adapting a model to the individual customer's requirements so that though she may not have a "perfect" figure (and who has?) she is made to look and feel her best. This is particularly important with a coat which has to fit over other clothes, has to last and look fashionable for more than a season, and really do something for the woman who just cannot be fitted, even expensively, on the peg.

The little Georgian house at

37 South Molton Street is not

small and overpowering with

high chandeliers and gilt chairs.

The shop window has dresses

and blouses from the "boutique"

collection. There are boutique

costs at £145, made of materials

from top-class manufacturers

such as Michel Thierry, Dor-

meil, etc.

A bespoke coat for the difficult

to fit costs £185 with three

fittings. Roger Brindis cuts the

but when she leaves the table,

coat himself and is present with

sits down and spreads her skirt

that too, must form part of the

picture, as must the back of the

dress while she dances.

Madame Crystal of Newman

Street does not tell fortunes. She

makes belts for his clothes. There

is only one word to do them

justice. Exquisite. The black

dull satin evening belt with

crystal buckle, the supple calf,

which handles like silk, the exact

colour of the cashmere coat. She

also makes beautiful gloves.

"Off the peg" has made great

strides. Its impact is immediate

particularly for the young who

have the energy, and money, to

"case" Oxford Street, Regent

Street and Kensington High

Street, and come up with a com-

plete new outfit that suits their

lifestyle each time they get a pay

check.

But all the over-forties who

qual at the thought of Oxford

Circus in the rush-hour, take to

the hills at late-night shopping

but are not so far on in their

dotage that they wish to

disappear from the scene" come

completely, could well find the

answer to "what on earth shall I

wear?" at 37 South Molton

Street (01-629 1836), where Roger

Brindis and anybody who works

for him would rather eat grass

than sell them anything which

didn't suit them.

A dinner dress not only has

to look attractive at neck and

waist, but when she leaves the table,

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picture, as must the back of the

dress while she dances.

Mary Vas does not tell fortunes. She

makes belts for his clothes. There

is only one word to do them

justice. Exquisite. The black

dull satin evening belt with

crystal buckle, the supple calf,

which handles like silk, the exact

colour of the cashmere coat. She

also makes beautiful gloves.

"Off the peg" has made great

strides. Its impact is immediate

particularly for the young who

have the energy, and money, to

"case" Oxford Street, Regent

Street and Kensington High

Street, and come up with a com-

plete new outfit that suits their

lifestyle each time they get a pay

check.

But all the over-forties who

qual at the thought of Oxford

Circus in the rush-hour, take to

the hills at late-night shopping

but are not so far on in their

dotage that they wish to

disappear from the scene" come

completely, could well find the

answer to "what on earth shall I

wear?" at 37 South Molton

Street (01-629 1836), where Roger

Brindis and anybody who works

for him would rather eat grass

than sell them anything which

didn't suit them.

A dinner dress not only has

to look attractive at neck and

waist, but when she leaves the table,

coat himself and is present with

sits down and spreads her skirt

that too, must form part of the

picture, as must the back of the



## HOME NEWS

Fishing industry  
needs new policy'

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

A PLEA for "a coherent Government policy" on the fishing industry was made yesterday by Mr Paul Taibscott, chairman of Associated Fisheries.

He said that the Government had failed to produce a policy which could be understood by the industry. "If it has a policy, it has not told us about it."

The industry had been the main attraction at the last two days of the Sea conference when discussions on fishing limits had been overshadowed by strategic considerations and mineral rights.

Mr Fred Peart, Fisheries Minister, was greeted with the traditional signs of jeers as he arrived to Hull docks yesterday to open new fish doors.

Mr Peart said that Britain was still willing to negotiate "anywhere, anytime" to reach a settlement with Iceland.

But he expected the situation to drag on until after the Law of the Sea conference, due to open next month.

## Bill to ease drink laws given second reading

A private member's Bill to relax England's "archaic and uncivilised" licensing laws was given an unopposed second reading in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Tory MP for Rushcliffe, its originator, said the measure would allow licensees to have extended and more flexible opening hours and to permit children into parts of licensed premises.

Dr Shirley Summerville, Under-Secretary at the Home Office, said that the Government would not actively oppose or support the Bill, but it believed that any general reform of licensing laws would be best done by Government legislation.

## Chrysler fined

Chrysler UK was fined a total of £500 at Rugby after a factory inspector found a fire escape door at the Ryton plant in Coventry had been shut and three further breaches of safety regulations.

## Ten-minute Bill

MPs took only ten minutes to give a Bill to enable the Stock Exchange to introduce its new computerised settlement and stock transfer system an unopposed second reading.

## Stamp duty

In future elections for trade union posts conducted by postal ballot, the Government should meet the cost of postage while employers should provide time and a site for the ballot, Mr James Prior, Tory spokesman on employment, told the Liverpool and Merseyside branch of the Institute of Directors.

## Chicken feed

EEC plans to reduce its "mountain" of surplus skinned milk powder by making chicken feed manufacturers use it in pig and poultry feeds will push up the price of eggs and broilers, says the British Poultry Federation which called on the Government to state publicly that it will oppose the plan at the Common Market farm price review talks next week.

## NEB takes over

THE GOVERNMENT formally transferred its shares in seven companies, including Rolls-Royce and British Leyland and

## Construction industry orders drop sharply

BY MICHAEL CASSELL, BUILDING CORRESPONDENT

**CONSTRUCTION** industry orders fell sharply last December.

While part of the fall may be due to a seasonal decline, the overall pattern of the past few months remains disconcerting and there are no indications that an upturn is likely.

According to the Department of the Environment, the total value, at present prices, of orders in December dropped to only £372m, against £483m in November, itself the worst period for six months. In December 1974, orders were worth £476m, at current prices.

Expressed in constant prices and adjusted to exclude normal seasonal variations, total orders for the last quarter of last year were 12 per cent down on the previous three months and 11 per cent below the fourth quarter of 1974.

For last year as a whole, orders were 24 per cent below the 1974 level and this year output is expected to be down by about the same percentage.

Last year, output was 8 per cent down on the previous 12 months.

The Department says that orders for housing in public and

private sectors fell again in blackspot, were 28 per cent, worth £58m, at current prices last year, when compared with November, while private housing contracts were valued at only £73m, compared with £93m, in the previous month.

For the fourth quarter as a whole, council housing orders were 15 per cent down on the preceding three months, but 11 per cent higher than a year earlier. Last year, total council housing contracts were 24 per cent up on 1974.

In the private sector, orders in the last three months of last year were up by 2 per cent over the previous three months, 30 per cent better than year before. Orders for the year registered an increase of 21 per cent.

Public non-housing work in December was worth only £113m, at present prices, against £166m in the previous month. For the last quarter orders were down by 13 per cent over the preceding three months and 18 per cent below a year earlier. For the year, orders were 8 per cent better than in 1974.

Orders for private industrial building, the industry's major 94sm.

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Orders for private industrial building, the industry's major 94sm.

## 'Conscious saving' big factor in cutting use of energy

BY MICHAEL CASSELL

**CONSERVATION** has accounted for one-third of the drop in energy consumption over the last two years, according to Mr Tony Driver, general manager (sales) of BP Oil.

He told members of the Institute of Fuel in Barnsley, Yorkshire, last night that last year Britain used 8 per cent less energy than in 1973, a reduction equivalent to nearly 30m tons of coal.

About 20m tons of this decline had been due to the economic recession while 10m tons had been saved through a conscious conservation effort.

It was essential to re-establish efficiency as the basis for prosperity, he told members of the Institute's Yorkshire section.

"Much of the conservation has been achieved by what has come to be called good housekeeping but most of all the reaction to the price mechanism.

If Britain's GNP was to con-

tinue to grow, the so-called fuel technologists. Waste does matter. Research takes on a new meaning. So does the teaching of best practices.

## Efficient

"What we are rediscovering as a nation is that there is no substitute for being efficient. We are also rediscovering that hiding reality behind a distorted price mechanism only puts off the problems."

David Fishlock, Science Editor, writes from Zurich: The only technologies capable of bridging the energy gap facing the U.K. in the 1980s when oil supplies begin to dwindle are coal, nuclear energy and energy conservation.

Dr Walter Marshall, Chief Scientist at the Department of Energy, told an energy symposium here,

if Britain's GNP was to con-

tinue to grow, the so-called fuel technologists. Waste does matter. Research takes on a new meaning. So does the teaching of best practices.

## Efficient

"What we are rediscovering as a nation is that there is no substitute for being efficient. We are also rediscovering that hiding reality behind a distorted price mechanism only puts off the problems."

Some mix of the alternative energy sources could become very important "during the next century" and, because of the long gestation periods of energy technologies, the U.K. would be following them with some vigour."

Some of the more advanced nuclear technologies would take a very long time to mature.

Nuclear fusion—in which the EEC has been trying to get the energy gap facing the U.K. to begin to dwindle are coal, nuclear energy and energy conservation.

He sometimes thought that fusion might generate electricity by the year 2020, but he could not plan even to that date.

## Industry 'will be stronger'

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

BRITISH manufacturing industry will emerge from the recession strengthened and better fitted to deal with world competition despite the many problems we have," it was claimed last night.

The claim was made by G. W. Barlow, a member of the Industrial Advisory Board, the organisation which advises the Government on industrial matters.

The recent difficult trading conditions had weed out many weak companies.

This had been painful in the short-term for the employees, but taking a long-term view, "it is poor companies."

a healthy trend because weak companies use valuable labour resources in a most ineffective way," Mr Barlow told the annual meeting of the Institution of Works Managers.

Mr Barlow is chairman and chief executive of Ransome Hoffmann and Pollard, the bearings concern, a vice-president of the British Mechanical Engineering Confederation and a member of the CBI Council. He said:

"From these rescue situations, there ought to come a new strength and purpose."

Another reason for optimism was that the Government has begun to realise that companies must make profits in order to generate funds for investment."

## FT CLIPPER RACE

## Anaconda makes fast progress

BY ALEC BEILBY

THE AUSTRALIAN ketch Anaconda II is expected to reach Dover in 9-10 days at the end of the Sydney-London leg of the Financial Times clipper race.

She can expect a welcome as warm as that for the winning crewmen of Great Britain II, who crossed the finishing line for a champagne and fireworks reception on Wednesday evening.

Anaconda was reported to be sailing fast in fresh winds at last south of the Azores—about 1,800 miles from Dover. For the first time since leav-

ing Cape Horn she is sailing in the track of the winning British yacht.

But contact with Anaconda is difficult because of troubles with her main radio. Great Britain II is no longer available to relay her messages.

The Dutch yacht, Great Escape, has crossed the equator following almost exactly in the track taken by Great Britain II. She should reach Dover about seven days after the Australians and is still a contender for the handicap prize for the second

leg of the race.

No contact has been made by the French yacht, Kriter II, since last week.

The Italians aboard CS e RB II have still not been heard of or seen since leaving the Falkland Islands more than three weeks ago.

Great Britain II will sail from Dover to Greenwich on Tuesday night and stop there during Wednesday night.

She will then sail up the Thames through Tower Bridge on Thursday afternoon, with Edward Heath at the helm.

She will dock at St Katharine's Haven, where she will be open to the public on March 5-6.

People wanting to go aboard will be asked to pay a small charge, which will go to the yacht's project fund.

Radio expertise for the entire voyage round the world by Royal Marine radio operator Keith Power yesterday earned him a silver tankard.

It was presented by the radio operators at the Royal Apprentices School at Harrogate, who took most of his morse broadcasts.

POSITIONS:

Anaconda II: 31 N 27 W 2256 GMT Feb. 26.

Great Escape: 04 N 25 W 1800 GMT Feb. 26.

Kriter II: 28 N 36 S 59 W 1200 GMT Feb. 21. Estimated position Feb. 27—540 miles due east of Recife.

## Scottish banking

OUR SURVEY of Scottish Banking and Finance on February 24 referred to the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society's dividend policy as a unit-linked scheme.

The company points out that while the policy is issued in £1 units, it is one of the less traditional endowment policy with early maturity options on a guaranteed basis incorporated

## CBI survey shows Britain is now on road to recovery

BY ADRIAN HAMILTON

FURTHER SIGNS that the and this remained a worrying manufacturing industry is on the road to recovery were reported yesterday by the Confederation of British Industry.

The Confederation, releasing the results of its February Monthly Trends Inquiry, said that it had seen particularly encouraging signs in the pick-up of new orders over the last four months.

In private commercial building, orders in the last three months of last year were 13 per cent down on the third quarter and 10 per cent below the level achieved in the same period of 1974. Orders for the year dropped by 29 per cent from the 1974 level.

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Brick production climbed again last month after the fall in output in December. According to the Department of the Environment, production reached £28m last month against £32m in December and £41m in January last year. At the same time, deliveries rose from £36m in December to £39m, compared with £40m in the first month of

the year.

Looking forward to the next four months, the respondents to the Inquiry generally predicted higher production in volume terms, especially at the lighter end of industry, but most companies also seemed to be expecting increases in domestic prices

## BRUNNER INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED

The following is the statement of the Chairman, Mr. T. B. H. Brunner, circulated with the Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th November, 1975.

The year under review saw the Trust's gross revenue increase by £16,050 to £743,308. Accordingly, your directors were able to declare a higher interim dividend of 1.375p per unit and now recommend payment of a higher final dividend of 1.4625p per unit to make a total of 2.6p per unit for the year. This is equivalent to a gross distribution of 16% on the Trust's ordinary share capital against 14.5% a year ago.

In a discouraging business climate various factors have affected the Trust's performance. On the credit side, we have benefited from increased franked income, underwriting commissions and deposit interest. Also, following the repayment of the Swiss Franc loan in early 1974, no interest was payable in the year to November 1975. On the debit side, we have received less unfranked investment income, paid higher Corporation Tax and incurred unavoidably higher administration costs. Net new investment in the year amounted to £408,659.

A graph displaying comparative movements over the last ten years in the net asset value of the Trust's ordinary stock, the Financial Times Accounted All Share Index, gross distribution to stockholders and the Retail Price Index is included for the first time on Page 15 of the report.

I have referred to a discouraging business climate. This is conspicuously true of the United Kingdom, rather less so of certain overseas countries where the Trust has direct or indirect substantial investments held either directly or indirectly through British registered companies. Continuing price and wage inflation, a lack of fiscal, nil economic growth and by international standards—very high levels of taxation have combined to restrict the ability of British industry to earn and retain profits. The consequences of these developments for those charged with the running of public and private enterprises are all too apparent. They present formidable problems to those responsible for making investment decisions.

1976 has started with a host of uncertainties and a further advance in the Trust's net earnings will need to be striven for. However, you Board notes a return to somewhat more buoyant conditions in the London and New York capital markets since the end of the year. This welcome trend is reflected in the substantially higher net asset value of the Trust's equity at the year end (£9.50 per unit against 48p per unit at 30th November 1974). Regarding the management of invested funds, it should be noted that we have further reduced the number of holdings in the Trust's portfolio with the objective of both improving the monitoring of individual holdings, which now number 268, and stabilising administrative costs.

Mr. R. N. Young, a Director of Kleinwort, Benson Limited, who has managed the Trust's portfolio since January 1971, was invited to join our Board in March 1975. At the forthcoming Annual General Meeting stockholders will be asked to confirm Mr. Young's appointment as well as the reappointment of Mr. G. M. Duthie.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, 26th March, 1976, at 11.45 a.m. at the Company's registered office, 20, Fenchurch Street, London, EC3P 3DS. Copies of the Full Annual Report are obtainable from the Secretary at that address.

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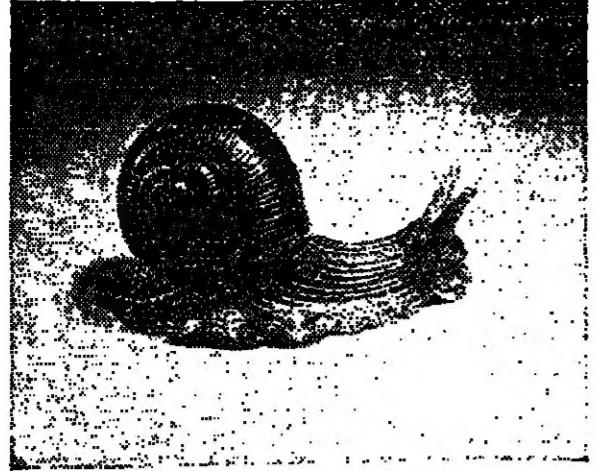
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Nephrite snail, by Cari Fabergé. 3½ in. (9.5cm.) long. To be sold on Tuesday, March 9th in a sale of The Robert Strauss Collection of Works of Art by Cari Fabergé.

The small in the photograph is one of the masterpieces of stone cutting conceived by that master of the exotic, Peter Cari Fabergé. It is of the brilliant green jade known as nephrite and is one of two in existence, the other, of agate, is in the Royal Collection. First modelled in wax it would be cut under the supervision of Karl Woerffel or his successor Alexander Meier, part of the great team built up by Fabergé to supply elegant trifles to the courts of Russia and Europe. The little elephants and rabbits were so popular the same model was made in a variety of colours and all are well represented in the collection of Works by Cari Fabergé formed by Robert Strauss, to be sold on March 9th.

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SILVER AND JEWELS. FRIDAY, 26th MARCH Catalogues 55p including post.  
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## Sotheby Records



This plate, sold for a world record auction price for any piece of European pottery, came from the Collection of the late Sir Stephen L. Courtauld. It is painted with two scenes from the Sacrifice of Isaac.

Sotheby's regularly hold sales of pottery and porcelain which include items of all values.

Our experts in this

A Gubbio Iistoriato plate, decorated with lustre by Maestro Giorgio Andreoli, signed MG6 and dated 1522, 31cm, sold on 18th March, 1975 for £55,000

subject inspect property at Bond Street between 9.30 am and 4.30 pm on weekdays.

The annual subscription to all the catalogues and price lists for English pottery and porcelain is £9.50 and for Continental pottery and porcelain, which includes maiolica, £6.50. (U.K. prices only).

For advice on buying and selling at auction, telephone or write to Jock Palmer.

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## Collecting wisely The outlived thing

BY JUNE FIELD

WOMEN'S CLOTHES have museums are taking fashion evoked strong emotions even in seriously, particularly that of the scholarly. "I beg you fervently, do not allow yourselves York the Costume Institute of to be upholstered like armchairs, but drape them like women," entreated William Morris, the crusader against the materialism and ugliness of Victorian England.

His view was that "garments should never rest on their laurels since Sir Cedric Beaton's *An Anthology of Fashion* in 1971, and back in 1960, a *Lady of Fashion*, composed of the wardrobe of socialite Heather Finbarr. Their costume court has drawn numerous brickbats mainly because of its inadequate lighting and general unhappy atmosphere; but depending on funds, exhibition manager Michael Darby told me a complete re-think is planned.

Meanwhile coming up in one of the main galleries is an exciting exhibition *Fashion 1900-1939*, March 25-May 9. Initiated

by the Scottish Arts Council with the support of the V&A, it has already had good attendances in Edinburgh, and the displays are being slightly revamped for London. Particularly interesting is the work of the photographers of period—Man Ray, De Meyer, Horst and Steichen.

By the 1920s fashion was back to some of its pre-war elegance. "After two long hours of Longdale humour, the dazzling Iris Claire fed to the Azure Coast and leaped wildly into turquoise pyjamas," wrote a 1927 critic of *The Last of Mrs Cheyne*; and in 1934 a magazine pictured "Miss Gertrude Lawrence, English actress, relaxing amid chintz, swathed in furs and satins," while nearby Edith Sitwell, "wearing a turban in fashion. His contribution to lieu of a nightcap, has her exhibition. Contrasts, is his costume collection. Also included is some beautiful Arts and Crafts jewellery 1850-1930 Compton Mackenzie, in an from the Fine Arts Society article in *Vanity Fair*, 1928, (seen at their New Bond Street Gallery in November), as well in *Cardinale of the 1920s* and as John Jesse's interesting collection of plastics.

Among the Klein clothes are sexy chiffon teagowns, classed by that 1920s dozen of etiquette, Emily Post, as "a hybrid between a wrapper and a ball dress" obviously intended as the harbinger of slipping into something loose, beaded Charleston chemise dresses, 1918 bathing-costumes, and knickers—varying from a combination petticoat and panties, trimmed with satin condition. That it has now swallows and blue embroidery, was formerly in the library of acquired antiquarian interest is to the basic artificial silk Robin Howard, the director apparent from the way variety of 1944, branded with general of the Contemporary



Dan Klein accessories in the exhibition of 1920s and 1930s fashion at the Adelaide Art Festival, March 8-29

the Utility trade marks.

Various objects of the period can be bought at Dan Klein's For further study, Nancy Bradshaws, 10 Canongate Place, N.1 field's Costume in Detol 1930 and Loot, Brewer's Lane, Rich-1930, just reprinted by Harpmon.

The adventurous should £8, is an invaluable source book, keep a careful watch on Oxford with detailed drawings documents and second-hand clothes shops, mentioning the construction of a jumble sales, church bazaars, garment Elizabeth Ewing's auctions, and even look in the History of 20th Century Position (Batsford £4). re

Collectors can specialise in named designers, different types of fabrics, design motifs Arnold (Macmillan £6.50) is or fashion accessories; the good on dating, repair, storage latter embracing shawls, signed and display of clothes, as well scarves, pleated paper fans as listing museums, art galleries (both suitable for framing), series and country houses, hats, handbags (sequinned, where collections can be seen, beaded and chain handled). Ernestine Carter's *20th Century Belts, gloves and skinny Fashion, A Scrapbook*—1900 to strapped and buttoned shoes To-day (Eyre Methuen £3.75) is with "waisted" heels and an excellent picture-plate tracing pointed toes.

The serious researcher can style, regrettably without index join The Costume Society, de- or bibliography.

Dance Trust, and the proceeds will go towards the trust's fund raising appeal for the expansion of its headquarters at The Place, near Euston Station.

A considerable sum should be realised, around £150,000 in all, since for sale are a Shakespeare First Folio, which could make £15,000, as well as second, third and fourth folios, and a first edition of Henry IV, Part Two, expected to realise up to £12,000, and the Poems, which may sell for £2,000. There is also a very early, 1559, copy of the poems of the Earl of Surrey, estimated at £8,000-£10,000.

At Sotheby's yesterday 583 very early copies of the Eagle, the comic, sold for £100, while 386 Gems made £170 and a 1791 jigsaw puzzle fetched £55.

ANTONY THORNCROFT

### Saleroom

A SOUTH GERMAN relief wood carving of the Nativity, originally made around 1500 but over-painted in Baroque and other periods, was bought for £4,900 at Bonham's yesterday, well above forecast. It was the highest price in a sale which totalled £27,877. A feature was the good prices for miniatures—a pair of Robert Graham and his wife, painted by George Engleheart around 1790 made £800 and a family group, possibly by Louis Andre Fabre, sold for £600.

At Sotheby's on Monday there is a very important sale of English books. The collection of Robin Howard, the director apparent from the way variety of 1944, branded with general of the Contemporary

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1976

## TUC and the Budget

THE Stock Market, which closed last week badly, partly because of disappointment about the Chancellor's plans for cutting public expenditure, opened this week on a very firm note. By mid-week, however, though gilded were buoyed up by hopes of a further drop in interest rates, the steam had gone out of the recovery in equities, and yesterday the market was again dull. Minimum lending rate did come down another 1/4 per cent, as had been hoped; but a rise in the prime lending rate of one of the leading U.S. banks served as a reminder that the prospect of a continued fall in U.S. rates is now much less promising than it was until recently, and that the scope for a flexible monetary policy at home is correspondingly more limited.

Sign that the recession may be bottoming out, however, continue to accumulate. The latest official figures show that capital investment in the fourth quarter of 1975 was 20 per cent below the same period of 1974—the year-on-year fall was 14 per cent, the largest yet recorded—but the Confederation of British Industry, though rather less optimistic about 1976 than the Department of Trade, still expects investment to begin rising again some time during the year. As for stocks, disinvestment of £204m. in the third quarter was followed by a much smaller figure of £18m. in the fourth—which suggests that an actual recovery in stockbuilding may not be far off.

### Public spending

Such a recovery, however welcome as an indication that production is turning the corner, will have a double effect. It will push up the bill for imports and make a further improvement in exports necessary if the trade balance is not to deteriorate again; it will also increase industrial demand for credit, and raise the possibility of competition between the public and private sectors for what credit can be made available without an inflationary rise in the money supply. The "cuts" proposed in public expenditure after all—and the Government White Paper has come in for some serious criticism this week from the Select Committee on Expenditure—are not due to begin until the financial year 1976-78. Expenditure this year will be higher.

It is probably the absence of

immediate cuts in public expenditure, together with a hope that the cuts proposed for later are still a matter for negotiation, which has saved the Government from serious trouble with the TUC or the left-wing of the Labour Party. The left-wing is unlikely to be a serious threat without TUC support, and the TUC made it plain after a meeting this week that it regards the Social Contract as being still in force. Despite the launching of a Conservative campaign to woo the unions, there is no doubt that the latter prefer to work with a Labour Government and have no intention at present of threatening its future by refusing their co-operation.

### Little stimulus

But the ability of union leaders to command the support of their members for the next stage of incomes policy, which is likely to be more flexible and therefore more difficult to enforce vigorously, will depend to some extent upon the degree to which Government views can be made acceptable to the unions. After the White Paper on public expenditure comes in only five weeks' time—the Budget. Although the Chancellor has already hinted publicly that he is willing to cut some rates of personal tax to help secure agreement on a lower norm for wage increases from the summer onwards, it is most unlikely that he will accept the TUC's general Budget recommendation—a sharp increase in home demand aimed at bringing down the level of unemployment as quickly as possible.

This would be a more realistic policy if the Government's prime objective had not still to be a further reduction in the rate of inflation. The latest unemployment figures, in fact, show that the upward trend has slackened; and even if, as is likely, much of this improvement is due to the special measures taken by the Government to preserve and create jobs, the problem has become slightly less urgent. The Chancellor has made it plain that he intends rising output to be based primarily on higher exports and capital investment for credit, and raise the possibility of competition between the public and private sectors for what credit can be made available without an inflationary rise in the money supply. The "cuts" proposed in public expenditure after all—and the Government White Paper has come in for some serious criticism this week from the Select Committee on Expenditure—are not due to begin until the financial year 1976-78. Expenditure this year will be higher.

The implication of the White Paper is that it will be small. It is most unlikely that he will accept the TUC's general Budget recommendation—a sharp increase in home demand aimed at bringing down the level of unemployment as quickly as possible.

Assuming he wanted to take a taxi, he would have either to go back to Rabat or fly on to Cairo, where he could enjoy a very cheap snack meal and take advantage of a low-priced

cinema seat, though strictly

permitted with cheaper local emerges as the most expensive throughout the country, hotels priced hotels and three luxury

rooms and food.

Though in most cases we have

been able to stay in any of the cities quoted for less than we have calculated merely by staying in a hotel without telephone in the bedrooms or by buying beer in a cafe rather than in a hotel. In some cities, such as Cairo, for example, it is simply not possible to get a hotel of the standard you would find in America or in most European capitals, while European food is not always available. There we have substituted a local equivalent in any of these cities but sets out to establish in case of food or the best hotel greater detail than before the costs a businessman is likely to incur if he stays in a hotel for a short period of time.

Thus, precise comparisons of the cost of a five-day package, on which the Index is based, are not possible, but by asking reflect the cost of living for correspondents to use, wherever practicable, the same standards of hotel or restaurant, the Index should give a rough guide to the kind of costs a visitor can expect.

On this basis, New York again

reflects the cost of living throughout the country, hotels priced hotels and three luxury

rooms and food.

These hotel prices, of course, assumed that businessmen

reflect not only the general would not be prepared to lower standard of living in particular cities but also the strength of French wine and Scotch whisky the local currency against the cost so much in some countries pound and the availability of that even the most loyal Scotch

drinker would be deterred. In the of the South American capitals, these cases we have substituted locally made drinks. In those cities which are "dry" by law we have substituted Coca Cola

while the very high price for hotels in Jeddah reflects the for alcoholic drinks.

The correspondents in some cities stressed that businessmen

been far higher on the Index but for the fact that no money can be spent on alcohol there.

On the other hand, Rio de Janeiro comes out surprisingly low not only because of the weakness of the cruzeiro but also because it is a tourist centre with a fair number of medium priced hotels.

The hotel price used for compiling the Index has been arrived at by averaging the cost of three economy

### Letters to the Editor

#### Tax and freedom

From Mr. V. Lester

Sir.—With reference to the article by C. Gordon Tether (February 24) in which he seeks to decry Mrs. Thatcher's statement, "Taxation hits freedom," I would disagree with Mr. Tether on the following grounds. Spreading litter and drunken driving have nothing in common with taxation and rightly this conduct has to be controlled by our crowded island and complex society. Taxation of earnings and savings is a different matter.

I speak as a very small man in our complex society (retired country constable). Over the years my wife and I lived with our modest savings and a few capital to augment our pension when we retired and live in a bungalow I built myself. I have seen people who were in the same occupation "spend as they go" and they now live in council houses where they receive, at the very least, a rent subsidy, while I have to pay rates equal in a lot of cases to their rent. The interest on my savings is also taxed. Is Mr. Tether telling me that I should suffer more taxation in order to subsidise these people and the governments they elect in order that my small capital shall be destroyed and I am forced to go "cap in hand" for "rebates" or whatever may be decided for me? (By me I mean all who wish to have the freedom to stand on their own two feet.)

We have no objection to helping those who through no fault of their own require help, but I fail to see the justice in having my freedom taxed away and to be told it is in the name of "fair redistribution." I hope by this (compared with his article) crude example Mr. Tether will see that Mrs. Thatcher is speaking the Truth when she states "more taxation erodes freedom and increases dependency on the State." I only hope that she will come up to "proof" should ever be in a position so to do.

V. Lester  
35, Wadham Road,  
Liskeard, Cornwall.

Thatcher that taxation hits freedom, I would have thought it desirable that he took the time and effort to develop his arguments in a rational and logical manner. Instead his examples, based on the freedom of the individual to deposit Hitler and drive on the roads under the influence of alcohol, are irrelevant. These examples, widely different in degrees of significance, are anti-social crimes and not defensible in any way on the grounds of expression of freedom of the individual.

The level of taxation in this country has now reached such proportions that it has joined death in becoming a universal leveller. In a democratic society the only circumstances when taxes do not ultimately incur a loss of freedom will exist when the tax-payers have a real voice in how Governments dispose of their tax boundaries; when, for example, options such as a first class health service or proper facilities for the care of the aged are evaluated against the options of support operations for British Leyland or the development of Concorde. Politicians of the left are these days fond of referring to the social wage. I think it is about time people look at this in the unsocial wage.

When people understand that, with no overall growth in the economy, the gain in any one sector must be paid for by a loss in another sector, then as a country we will have taken a big step forward in realistic thinking. Perhaps then the blackmail being practised by some groups will be clearly seen to be what it really is!

J. D. Pitt  
39, Connaught Way,  
Tunbridge Wells,  
Kent.

#### Creating wealth

From Mr. G. Simon

Sir.—Mr. Tether (February 24) includes a number of errors of fact and deduction. He says, for example, that the main purpose of income tax has always been to redistribute available spending power. This would no doubt be interesting news for the late Mr. Pitt who believed, so one is told, that income tax was raised for the purpose of financing a war with Napoleon. It

surely is the case that income tax has only recently been regarded as a redistributive instrument. Before the second world war the redistributive element in taxation was minute.

Ignoring the historical inaccuracy, however, Mr. Tether perpetuates a dangerous concept which he puts as follows:

"It has long been recognised that the economic life we have evolved over the centuries has given us freedom to some members of the community to exploit the efforts of the rest for example, by allowing them to acquire a disproportionately large share of the ownership of productive resources created by the efforts of all."

Would Mr. Tether care to describe how, for example, the inventor of some process or commodity exploits the efforts of the rest of the community when he receives royalties for the use of his invention. Similarly, how does the proprietor of a business, built up over 30 to 40 years, exploit the efforts of the rest of the community, by applying his own energies to developing the business? The word "exploitation" can only be used in those circumstances by torturing language. The generation of wealth does not depend on removing money which would have been available for the general body of the public unless one believes that the Marxist that all profit is theft.

You do not exploit a man by paying him a fair price for his efforts and providing him with decent conditions in which to work, nor does he allow the owner of the business that employs him "to acquire a disproportionately large share of the ownership of productive resources created by the efforts of all." If "all" were giving their best efforts the generation of wealth would be simple matter.

Mr. Tether may care to ask himself whether the creation of wealth is not an individual ability just as in sporting or musical or artistic talent. No one ever suggests that the earnings of the most expert sportsman or musician or artist should be held down so as to increase the earnings of the less able in those fields and prevent them from feeling hurt as to their lack of exceptional talent.

P. M. Inman  
3, Shaeff Way, Teddington, Middlesex.

# A guide to travel costs around the world

BY FINANCIAL TIMES CORRESPONDENTS

## HOW PRICES COMPARE (£)

Country/Town	Rate of Exchange	Index	1 night Bed+Bfast	1 Restaurant (excl. 1 French* wine)	1 Whisky	1 Beer	1 Snack	15km Taxi
New York	\$2.02	166	30.47	12.37	8.45	1.32	.83	1.28
Paris	Fr.9.02	131	24.89	12.77	3.65	1.62	.60	.38
Amsterdam	Fl.5.38	127	24.09	5.86	6.67	.92	.74	1.48
Bahrain	Dinar 0.79	126	25.07	13.10	5.09	.50	.45	.79
Chicago	\$2.02	125	21.39	6.66	5.08	.93	.61	2.25
Abu Dhabi	Dharm 7.94	121	21.54	4.84	8.69	1.09	.68	2.21
Tokyo	Yen 10	117	15.20	11.72	8.11	.95	.54	1.10
Copenhagen	D.Kr. 12.38	113	19.22	6.30	6.05	1.24	1.05	.74
Moscow	Rouble 1.55	111	24.92	4.95	1.98	1.31	.99	1.98
Tehran	Rial 1.39	110	22.13	6.41	2.70	1.04	.55	3.00
Nassau	Bar.52.03	110	18.37	7.32	5.96	.88	.81	1.87
Stockholm	S.Kr. 8.86	108	16.25	7.21	4.72	1.35	1.02	1.69
Brussels	B.Fr. 79.10	107	18.61	6.31	5.18	1.31	.95	2.10
Los Angeles	\$2.02	107	19.90	5.35	4.54	.59	.47	1.49
Toronto	CS.2.01	106	17.00	8.89	4.38	.86	.47	1.75
Oslo	N.Kr.11.17	104	17.05	8.05	5.50	.95	.78	1.43
Frankfurt	D.M. 5.17	103	17.24	5.32	4.83	1.31	.86	1.93
Helsinki	Markka 7.75	102	18.91	5.25	5.10	1.11	.71	1.28
London	£1.00	100	19.33	4.65	3.35	.52	.45	1.00
Tripoli	Libyan Dinar 0.599	100	16.80	4.88	N/A(23)	N/A(23)	N/A(23)	3.81
Lagos	Naira 1.25	99	15.84	3.28	4.40	.35	.62	2.20
Zurich	Sw.Fr. 5.17	98	17.77	3.98	4.17	1.36	.53	1.12
Geneva	Sw.Fr. 5.17	94	16.44	6.76	3.58	1.43	.53	1.93
Mexico	Peso 25.28	94	19.04	4.90	3.02			

With J. Sainsbury about to extend its petrol interests, Ray Dafter examines the forecourt battle now raging at many filling stations

# A ride on the petrol merry-go-round

THE petrol retailing market seems to have a bottomless bag always been able to market at or more. We are leap-frogging all the time."

No sooner had oil companies announced a new round has deliberately gone for dis-

of price increases than they count offers.

were subsidising retailers to cut prices to below previous levels.

Now motorists are being lured on to garage forecourts by an even more glittering array of trinkets and trophies, even bigger price cuts and even longer rolls of trading stamps.

Yet in the midst of this fierce competition in which established oil suppliers and retailers are desperately trying to keep their market shares in the face of falling demand, the J. Sainsbury supermarket chain is to open two petrol stations.

The group said this week that

following a successful exper-

iment at Cambridge, where un-

branded four-star petrol is be-

ing sold at 68p per gallon, it

planned to open two new super-

market-linked self-service sta-

tions in Worcester and Sutton

Coldfield. What is more, Sains-

bury said that it might expand further "if the conditions are right."

The Sainsbury decision

means that the established pet-

rol retailing trade is coming under increased pressure at a time when it is least wel-

come. Major oil companies round.

"We are in a rat race," com-

mented Mr. Richard Guess,

comparatively small lots of oil

head of a group which runs

on the volatile—but recently

depressed—Rotterdam spot Home Counties. "If I start

market for starting the cut-price offer 24-fold stamps the war. In addition, they have neighbouring garage will soon

pointed to ICI and Asda, the be offering 28-fold. By cutting

north country supermarket chain the price of petrol from, say,

72p a gallon to 68p I would

ICI manufactures petrol almost

probably double sales overnight as a by-product of its chemical

But then my competitors will

should also have good eyesight.

## Good eyesight

Motorists seeking the best

offers would find it useful to

have a pocket calculator or slide

rule. Shell U.K. Oil points out,

for example, that a single issue

of Green Shield stamps costs the

dealer 297p per gallon; in the

case of S and H it is 38p and for

the Co-op, 295p. A six fold

issue of Green Shield stamps

costs 1.782p per gallon while 28-

fold works out at 7.425p... A bargain-seeking motorist

should also have good eyesight.



Self-service at Cambridge, where the J. Sainsbury experiment's success will lead to new petrol stations at Worcester and Sutton Coldfield.

the Petroleum Retailers' Association whose general secretary, Mr. Geoffrey Atkinson, commented: "Price cutting is good for motorists only in the short term. The motorist will suffer if, as a result of the current situation, more service stations are forced to close down." On the other hand, retail price control was opposed by major oil companies.

On the face of it, this would that the Petroleum Retailers' Association has been pressing for minimum price levels and a Monopolies Commission reference. The forecourt battle now being waged demonstrates into the industry. The Association is concerned about the effect of the present competition heightened even more by the split-up of the Shell-Mex and BP marketing organisation—an independent retailers. Mr. Atkinson reckons that as many as ten service stations a day are being forced to close down, and that for every ten sites closed some 100 jobs are directly or indirectly at risk.

## Contested

His figures are contested by the bigger Motor Agents Association, the Institute of Petroleum and the major companies, none of which puts the rate of closure at above four a day. Nevertheless, the pressure on retailers is increasing, particularly those that have been forced to take a cut in margins to offer discounts. As Mr. Guess commented: "How can the average retailer involved in just the petrol business survive in an inflating economy, in a declining market with greatly reduced margins?"

There are signs that many retailers are living off the fat of 1975 when, up to about mid-year, they were making a comfortable profit. It may well be that some of the smaller operations are not fully aware of their plight, particularly those who still have a good deal of outstanding VAT to pay. They could find themselves among the casualties of the price-cutting battle which, in the short term, shows no sign of abating.

## Odd time

Nevertheless, as announced earlier this month, the petrol retailing business is to be examined again by the Monopolies Commission, much to the chagrin of the major suppliers. This will be the second reference in 18 years and it comes less than a year after a Price Commission report into retail petrol margins.

The Office of Fair Trading has also looked at—and dismissed—the possibility of imposing minimum petrol prices. In the light of the Government's anti-inflation campaign, it is difficult in any case to see how this could be justified.

The move had been urged by

Mr. Williams has threatened to use legislation if the trade does not voluntarily curb misleading advertising. It is but one example of where the petrol retailing sector has come under the scrutiny of the Government recently.

The Office of Fair Trading has

also looked at—and dismissed—the possibility of imposing minimum petrol prices. In the

light of the Government's anti-

inflation campaign, it is difficult

in any case to see how this could be justified.

The move had been urged by

## Economic Diary

WEDNESDAY—Monthly meeting of National Economic Development Council under the chairmanship of Prime Minister.

FRIDAY—Mr. Peter Shore, Trade Secretary, at Institute of Mechanical Engineers lunch, Dorchester, London.

SATURDAY—Gathering of Central Government borrowing requirement (January) at Sir Ralph Bates' office, CBI, at Industry Society lunch, Quay,

TUESDAY—Publication of CBI's

Foreign Secretary, Coventry by-election. Meeting in Paris of Labour Ministers from OECD's 24 countries. Provisional vehicle production and car registrations (February).

FRIDAY—Mr. Peter Shore, Trade Secretary, at Institute of Mechanical Engineers lunch, Dorchester, London.

SATURDAY—Mrs. Barbara Castle, Social Services Secretary, addresses annual meeting of the Greater London Regional Council.

TEURSDAY—Official visit to Iran by Mr. James Callaghan, Town Hall, London.

# 9.1%pa. now.

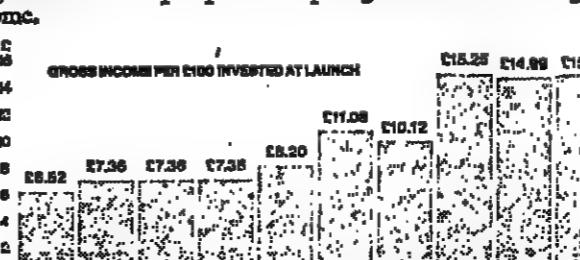
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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I declare that I am/we are not resident outside the Scheduled Territories and that I am/we not acquiring the units as the nominee(s) of any person(s).

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(If there are joint applicants each must sign and attach name and address separately.)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Henderson Far East Trust

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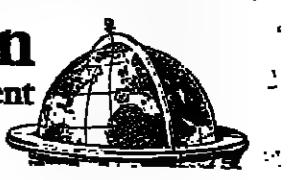
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## Owen backs Healey on spending cuts

BY JOHN HUNT

THE LABOUR Party's internal dispute over the public spending White Paper continued last night with a strong counter-attack in favour of the proposed cuts coming from Dr. David Owen, Minister of Health.

Mr. Healey said at Openhouse that it had been a good week for the Labour movement and for Britain.

He conceded that the levelling of public spending had been a serious disappointment to Labour's supporters, but he thought that they realised that the Government's ability to carry out social changes depended on the state of the economy.

Dr. Owen emphasised at Bournemouth the need for meaningful control of public spending ceilings and the need to achieve the correct distribution of resources in each sector.

He said that over-spending in some areas was capable of grossly distorting the allocation of resources. Inadequate control of spending in one sector meant less money for another area.

Socialists should not be afraid of tackling head-on the problem of control of public spending.

"There are signs all over the world that a coming political issue is the electorate's wish to see value for money in the public sector."

"There is clear evidence in Britain to-day of overall sloppi-

## Performance

The chart above shows how the gross income paid by the High Income Trust has increased over the years. For every £100 invested in the Trust at launch in November 1965, you would have received £6.52 in income over the first year, whilst last year you would have received £15.16. Meanwhile, the trust has shown sufficient capital growth to out-perform the FT All-Share Index by 30% with £100 invested at launch now worth £178.

Considering the recent Stock Market fall in 1974 this must be rated a most satisfactory past performance record. But you should always remember that a unit trust should be regarded as a long-term investment since prices are subject to fluctuation. The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

## Prospects

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## WALL STREET + OVERSEAS MARKETS + CLOSING PRICES

## Well above the worst: off 6

BY OUR WALL STREET CORRESPONDENT

**FURTHER LOSSES** were recorded on Wall Street to-day, following a spillover profit-taking after the failure of the Dow Jones Industrial Average to crack the 1,000 barrier. But the close was well above the worst.

After falling another 12.25 to 966.62, the Industrial Average partially recovered to 972.61 for a net loss of 5.22 on the day and a decline of 15.19 on the week. The NYSE All Common Index, at \$33.35, dipped 37 cents on the day and \$1.26 on the week. Losses outpaced gains by 1,993 to 454, while the trading volume decreased 7,386 shares to 26,549.

The market showed no apparent reaction to the 2.2 per cent. rise in the U.S. Government's January

Index of Leading Economic Indicators, which indicates the economic recovery was picking up again.

Also in the news, the Commerce Department reported that the U.S. had a trade deficit of \$72.5m. in January, the first deficit after 11 consecutive months of surpluses.

Consolidated Edison held unchanged at \$161, despite Public Service Commission allowing it only about one-fourth of the increased electric revenues it requested last April.

U.S. Shoe rose \$1 to \$31 on its higher earnings.

Rover-Ametech fell \$1 to \$22, potential mutual interest with Union Carbide, off \$1 at \$74.

Buttes Gas and Oil gained \$2 to \$29, following a "significant" gas discovery in a Texas well.

The American SE Market Value index fell \$.08 to 103.37, for a net loss of 0.84 on the week.

## OTHER MARKETS

## Canada down again

Canadian Stock Markets were broadly lower in moderate trading yesterday.

The Industrial Index shed 1.21 to 193.51, Western Oils 1.95 to 215.78, Base Metals 0.42 to 85.91, Banks 0.36 to 356.12 and Papers 0.18 to 126.24.

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Indices  
NEW YORK

## DOW JONES AVERAGES

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# You've got to hand it to them

Blind people are determined to maintain their dignity and independence. Self-reliance is what they strive for. Yet it's the help that you provide through your generous legacies and donations to the RNIB which enables blind people, after a period of rehabilitation and training, to take up their lives where they left off.

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## APPOINTMENTS

# Group posts at BP Nutrition (U.K.)

Following the merger of the U.K. and Irish subsidiaries of Trouw and Co. N.V. with Cooper Nutrition Products, the following executive Board appointments take effect on March 1 within BP NUTRITION (U.K.) and its subsidiaries: Mr. J. Cassidy, operations director, supplements; Mr. R. A. McColl, operations director, specialities and agricultural products; Mr. G. Pilkington, technical and production director; Mr. G. A. Hume, financial director; Mr. secretary; Mr. M. H. Berry, managing director, Northern Feed Materials; and Mr. S. R. D. Vanshawe, managing director, BP Nutrition (Ireland).

Mr. B. Watts, general manager and a director of BP Proteins, will be chairman and, as previously announced, Mr. D. E. M. Cooper, managing director of Cooper Nutrition Products, will be managing director of BP Nutrition (U.K.).

Mr. C. F. Mackenzie has been appointed chairman of AULT AND WIBORG PAINTS. He is succeeded as managing director by Mr. Gordon Phillips, previously operations director. Mr. Ron Hobart, deputy managing director/marketing director, will continue to have special responsibilities for sales.

Mr. L. C. Young, group managing director of J. Bibby & Sons, has been appointed chairman of the Advisory Board for the Government's committee to assist the clothing industry. Other members of the Advisory Board are: Mr. T. D. Parr, chair-

man and managing director of Thomas Marshall Investments; Mr. R. de Zouches de Wilson, Mr. de Zouches and Mackenzie, chartered accountants; Mr. I. A. Matthews, previously assistant general secretary of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers and currently a member of the Clothing EDC; and Mr. R. Windle, Oxford Management Centre and the National Economic Development Office.

Mr. A. L. Anderson, a director of Unilever NV, will retire next month. He will also relinquish the chairmanship of UAC International, which he has held since December 1969. The new chairman of UAC INTERNATIONAL will be Mr. C. F. Sedeles, who has been a director of Unilever Limited and of Unilever NV since May 1974.

Mr. E. G. Harper has been appointed inspector general of companies, companies liquidation and bankruptcy and registrar of deeds of arrangement on the retirement of Mr. C. A. Taylor.

Mr. G. W. Rutherford has been appointed deputy chairman of the EASTERN ELECTRICITY BOARD for a five-year period. Mr. Rutherford has been manager of the Board's Chilterns Group since June 1971, a post he now relinquishes.

Following the decision of the new Board of SLATER WALKER SECURITIES to close its regional office in Birmingham, Mr. C. W.

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